

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

FILED  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
W.D.N.Y. BUFFALO  
2007 AUG 23 PM 3:52

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In Re: Pilot Program for Alternative Dispute  
Resolution

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ORDER

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Act of 1998 (the "Act") requires that each district court "authorize . . . the use of alternative dispute resolution processes in all civil actions," 28 U.S.C. § 651(b), and "adopt such improvements to [an existing] program as are consistent with the provisions and purposes of [the Act]," *Id.*, § 651(c).

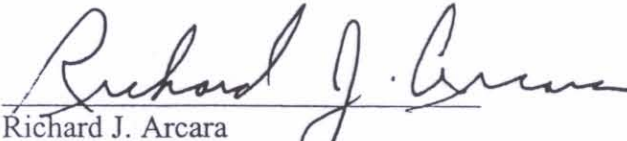
The Judges of this Court, having carefully considered existing Local Rule 16.2 governing the consensual arbitration of civil actions, and having concluded that mediation may more effectively "encourage and promote the use of alternative dispute resolution in [this] district," 28 U.S.C. § 651(b), hereby authorize the implementation of a pilot mediation program in accordance with the attached Plan for Alternative Dispute Resolution in the United States District Court for the Western District of New York (the "Plan"). The purpose of the pilot program is to provide the Court with information regarding the effectiveness of mediation so that it may determine whether amendment of existing Local Rule 16.2 is advisable.


The pilot mediation program shall operate from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006, at Buffalo, in the Western Division of the Western District of New York. District Judge William M. Skretny is hereby designated to implement, administer, oversee and evaluate the pilot program.

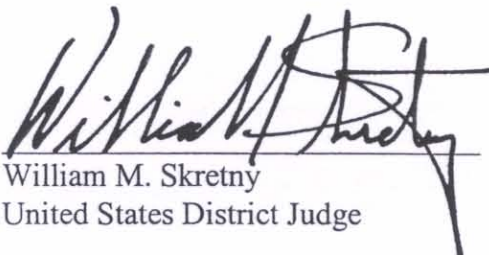
During the pilot program period, the Plan's provisions shall apply to all new and pending cases assigned to Judge Skretny. All other Judges, at their discretion, may refer cases for mediation under the Plan.

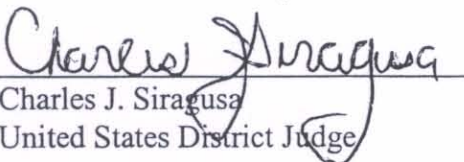
SO ORDERED.

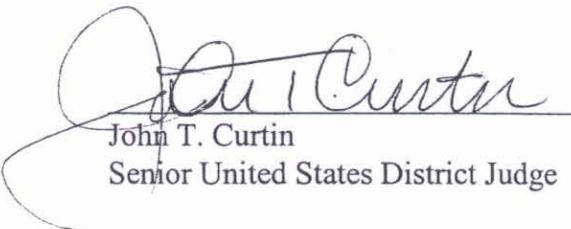
Buffalo and Rochester, New York  
August 22, 2005

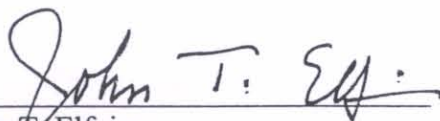
  
Richard J. Arcara  
Chief United States District Judge

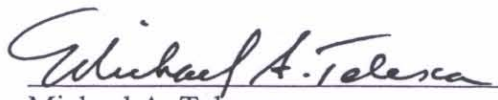
  
David G. Larimer  
United States District Judge

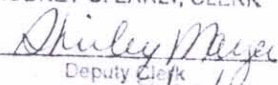
  
William M. Skretny  
United States District Judge

  
Charles J. Siragusa  
United States District Judge

  
John T. Curtin  
Senior United States District Judge

  
John T. Elfvin  
Senior United States District Judge

  
Michael A. Telesca  
Senior United States District Judge

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT, WDNY  
RODNEY C. EARLY, CLERK  
By   
Deputy Clerk  
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